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DEFENDANT TO SERVE 8 to 20 YEARS MINIMUM IN CONNECTION WITH PRO BOWL TICKET SCAM

Las Vegas, NV— Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto announced today that District Court Judge Kathy Hardcastle has sentenced **Mitchell Adam Chirchick, 40, of Las Vegas**, in connection with the sale of bogus travel packages to the NFL's 2007 Pro Bowl in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Chirchick, who pled guilty to three counts of Felony Theft of Property in Excess of \$2,500, was sentenced to consecutive terms of 4 to 10 years on Counts One and Two. Chirchick received an additional 4- to 10-year term on the third count, but it will be served concurrently with Count 2. Chirchick was also ordered to pay restitution to over 300 victims in accordance with amounts determined by the Nevada Department of Parole and Probation.

Senior Deputy Attorney General Robert Giunta, who prosecuted the case, stated there was overwhelming evidence of the crimes committed by Mr. Chirchick that led to the plea agreement in March of this year. Further, Mr. Chirchick perpetrated other travel package fraud while released from custody on this case. According to authorities in Central California, Chirchick began to sell other Pro Bowl type travel packages while out of custody in this case.

Attorney General Masto stated, "Our office works diligently and in cooperation with other agencies against such companies that harm Nevada consumers." "We believe that this sentence fits the crimes in this case and should discourage others from such fraudulent scams."

The investigation into Chirchick's activities, which was conducted jointly by the Attorney General's Bureau of Consumer Protection and the Nevada Consumer Affairs Division, revealed that the money paid by the victims did not go toward the purchase of airfare, lodging or game tickets. Instead, Chirchick diverted the funds for his personal use.

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